



STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
DELAWARE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION  
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## 2006 Year End Report

### 1. In State Industry Relations:

The four major components of the Delaware Racing Industry are:

- The public, who enjoy the long, storied traditions of harness racing in Delaware
- The horsemen, who have made substantial investments in time and dollars to provide fit, well conditioned horses to the races, such as “RAINBOW BLUE,” the 2004 Harness Horse of the Year and other noted champions such as “PERFECT BEAUTY.” The horsemen racing in Delaware are primarily represented by the Delaware Standardbred Owners Association (DSOA)
- The racetrack management teams at Dover Downs and Harrington Raceway, who provide the first class venues we have come to appreciate, and
- The Delaware Harness Racing Commission (DHRC), who provides regulatory oversight to all the participants in Delaware’s racing programs. That oversight includes, but is not limited to hiring and training the State racing officials such as the judges, veterinarians, investigators and administrative support staff, who are responsible for the conduct of racing from the time of entry through the clearance by testing laboratories.

Objective: The Racing Administrator works daily to ensure that lines of communication are clearly open between all parties. If a concern or question arises from a patron or other observer of a race, then the Administrator determines who should respond to the question. At the behest of DHRC Chairman Beth Steele, a Rules Committee was formed to evaluate and address the rules of racing. In 2006, members of DHRC staff, track management, the Delaware Standardbred Breeders Fund and the DSOA participated in the Rules Committee meetings, which were held on a regular basis. Consequently, many updates to the DHRC rules are now correct on our website.

### 2. Personnel: An ongoing assessment of current working officials in relation to the daily workload at the tracks has been instituted, and several areas are under consideration for change: the judges, licensing officials, veterinarians, and DHRC staff.

Objective: To equip the above noted areas with the means to properly address the goals, tasks, issues and responsibilities of these various sectors. In so doing we will assemble the premier Harness Racing Administration in North America:  
***DELAWARE~ THE FIRST STATE, FIRST IN INTEGRITY.***

3. Regulatory Compliance: The DHRC has Jo-Ann Price, a paralegal, who works closely with the Racing Administrator in addressing regulatory compliance issues. Ms. Price has extensive experience in working with State statutes governing racing as well as the day-to-day rules of the DHRC and she created a new "Notice of Hearing" with the input of former Commission Counsel Patricia Murphy. The judges will notify licensees and other interested parties of potential rule violations with this notice. Another valuable development by Ms. Price in 2006 was the addition of a Table of Contents and an Index to the DHRC Rulebook. Additionally, Ms. Price and Mr. Gallagher are compiling a policies and procedures manual to accompany the judge's updated rulebooks.

Objective: To be current and up-to-date with the rules of racing as they correspond to real life situations at the track level and ensure full compliance with the rights afforded our licensees.

4. Medication Issues: Considerable concern has been focused on both equine and human medication issues. The Racing Administrator and Chief Investigator Robert Collison met with officials of both Dover Downs and Harrington Raceway to arrange for the proper collection of test samples. In early November 2005, representatives from DHRC and Dalare Associates met with Dr. Larry Soma at the New Bolton Center in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Dr. Soma is a leading authority on Base Excess equine blood gas analysis. He complimented the DHRC for initiating this meeting and its use of the Radiometer equipment at the tracks for equine blood analysis of both Base Excess and total carbon dioxide. The DHRC instituted the use of two Radiometer testing devices at the beginning of the Fall Dover Downs live race meeting in 2006. This accommodation for the horsemen provides for onsite verification and confirmation of blood gas analysis testing data.

Objective: To ensure the wagering public, the competing horsemen, track managements and all other interested parties that a level and fair playing field has been established and is maintained diligently on a daily basis and to employ state of the art equipment, protocols and techniques for the overall safety and welfare of the competing horses. The human testing program is designed to assure trainers and drivers that all competitors are subject to testing, and that such testing is implemented for the safety of the competitors on and off the track.

5. International Industry Participation: The DHRC is a participating member of ARCI (Association of Racing Commissioners International). DHRC Chairman Steele is also the Chair of the ARCI Standardbred Racing Committee. Our Chief Investigator, Robert Collison, is a member of the ARCI Licensing Committee. Administrator Hugh Gallagher is a member of the Standardbred Racing Committee. Mr. Gallagher is also a member of the Stewards Advisory Committee for ROAP (Racing Officials Accreditation Program).

Objective: To keep the DHRC and Delaware's Standardbred community in the forefront of the North American profile. Participation in national and international

organizations keeps Delaware current with developing issues pertinent to the world of racing.

Summation: The DHRC staff looks forward to a full year of progress in 2007. We are actively interviewing and considering fully accredited and eligible candidates for senior racing positions with the DHRC. It is our goal to assemble and maintain the strongest Harness Racing Administration in North America. We will continue to implement the findings of the Rules Committee, and the accreditation of all our judges is again mandated for 2007. Additionally, members of the DHRC and staff have been nominated to ARCI committees for Standardbred Racing, Model Rules and Legal and Government Affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

*Hugh Gallagher*

Hugh Gallagher, DHRC Racing Administrator